

## Overview

District courts are created by the state constitution. They are the trial courts of Kansas with jurisdiction over all civil and criminal cases, including divorce and domestic relations, damage suits, probate and administration of estates, guardianships, conservatorships, care of the mentally ill, juvenile matters, and small claims. It is here that the criminal and civil jury trials are held. Kansas is divided into judicial districts, with a varying number of judges in each district. There is a district court in each county and an office of the clerk of the court where cases may be filed.

The State Supreme Court appoints a district judge as chief judge for each judicial district. The chief judge, in addition to judicial responsibilities, has general control over the assignment of cases within the district and general supervisory authority over the clerical and administrative functions of the court.

Sedgwick County is located in the 18<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, which includes no other counties and has 26 judges. There are currently about 224.5 nonjudicial personnel in the 18<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. District Court staff are state employees, but, under state law, county governments are responsible for providing facilities and related expenses for district court facilities. Thus, the County budget contains a department for the operations of the District Court.

In 2001, we will be addressing the working environment of caseworkers in Adult Probation and will be working with DIO to create better work conditions for employees. This project is estimated to cost \$90,000. This year we also plan to fund the replacement of furniture for a judge and his aide in the amount of \$6,500. The 2002 budget for the 18<sup>th</sup> Judicial District includes \$180,000 to fund computer replacement, \$85,000 for software upgrade and \$17,000 for training; those projects will be funded through the Court Management System funding. The 2002 budget also includes \$25,200 for the replacement of copiers in Adult Probation and Juvenile Divisions.

## Budget Summary

Category	2000 Actual	2001 Budget	2002 Adopted	% Change 01-02
Personnel & Benefits	-	-	-	-
Contractual Services	1,810,500	1,891,613	\$1,780,087	-5.9%
Commodities	180,238	181,000	\$210,647	16.4%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-
Capital Outlay	29,294	1,706	-	-
Interfund Transfers	261	261	-	-
Total	2,020,293	2,074,580	1,990,734	-4.0%
Grant Revenue	256,046	155,281	\$41,788	-73.1%
Fee Revenue	-	-	-	-
General County Revenue	1,764,247	1,919,299	1,948,946	1.5%

## 2002 Performance Measurement Summary

Performance Measure	2000 Actual	2001 Estimated	2002 Projected
Case load by type			
Civil/limited/small claims	29,920	30,684	31,000
Divorce	6,609	6,876	7,000
Traffic Tickets	26,186	25,000	25,500
Criminal/Search Warrants	3,363	3,468	3,500
Probate/Adoptions/Care & Treatment	2,255	2,324	2,400
Juvenile Offenders/Child Need of Care	2,583	2,600	2,700
Appeals	601	600	650
Total number of cases	75,201	71,552	72,750

## District Court of Kansas Eighteenth Judicial District

### Chief Judge Paul Buchanan

525 N. Main, Wichita Kansas  
(316) 383-7302



## Mission

**To provide courteous and dignified treatment to all citizens, in an environment that always promotes efficient and fair administration of justice.**

## Sedgwick County Board of Commissioners

### 2002 Priorities:

- ☞ Youth Services
- ☞ Process Improvement & Collaboration
- ☞ Demographics
- ☞ Economic Development
- ☞ Quality of Life